





ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

DATE:

May 18, 2000

DOCKET NO.:

T-03749A-99-0323

TO ALL PARTIES:

Enclosed please find the recommendation of Hearing Officer Alicia Grantham. The recommendation has been filed in the form of an Order on:

LEGENDS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (CC&N/RESELLER)

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-110(B), you may file exceptions to the recommendation of the Hearing Officer by filing an original and ten (10) copies of the exceptions with the Commission's Docket Control at the address listed below by 4:00 p.m. on or before:

MAY 30, 2000

The enclosed is <u>NOT</u> an order of the Commission, but a recommendation of the Hearing Officer to the Commissioners. Consideration of this matter has <u>tentatively</u> been scheduled for the Commission's Working Session and Open Meeting to be held on:

JUNE 6, 2000 AND JUNE 7, 2000

For more information, you may contact Docket Control at (602) 542-3477 or the Hearing Division at (602) 542-4250.

BRIAN C. McNEI

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2 CARL J. KUNASEK
CHAIRMAN
3 JIM IRVIN
COMMISSIONER
WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
COMMISSIONER

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF LEGENDS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE COMPETITIVE INTRALATA/INTERLATA RESOLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES EXCEPT LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES

DOCKET NO. T-03749A-99-0323

DECISION NO.

<u>ORDER</u>

Open Meeting
June 6 and 7, 2000
Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 17, 1999, Legends Communications, Inc., ("Applicant") filed with Docket Control of the Commission an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("Certificate") to provide competitive intraLATA and interLATA telecommunications services, except local exchange services, as a reseller within the State of Arizona.
- 2. In Decision No. 58926 (December 22, 1994), the Commission found that resold telecommunications providers ("resellers") were public service corporations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
 - 3. Applicant is a Georgia corporation, authorized to do business in Arizona since 1998.
- 4. Applicant is a switchless reseller, which purchases telecommunications services from AT&T, MCI WorldCom, and QWest.
- 5. On December 13, 1999, the Commissions Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") filed a Staff Report.
 - 6. In the Staff Report, Staff stated that the Applicant provided financial statements as of

December 31, 1998, which indicates assets of \$555,861, negative retained earnings of \$247,370 and total equity of \$108,930. Based on the foregoing, Staff believes that Applicant does not have adequate financial resources to make necessary plant additions or incur operating losses. Since the Applicant does not appear to have sufficient financial resources, it filed a letter on November 9, 1999, stating that it does not currently, and will not in the future, charge its customers for any prepayments, advances, or deposits. If at some future date, the Applicant wants to charge customers any prepayments, advances, or deposits, it must file information with the Commission that demonstrates Applicant's financial viability. Staff believes that if Applicant experiences financial difficulty, there should be minimal impact to its customers. Customers are able to dial another reseller or facilities-based provider to switch to another company.

- 7. The Staff Report stated that Applicant has no market power and the reasonableness of its rates would be evaluated in a market with numerous competitors.
 - 8. Staff recommended that:
 - (a) Applicant's application for a Certificate should be approved without a hearing pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1106B;
 - (b) Applicant's intrastate toll service offerings should be classified as competitive pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1108;
 - (c) Applicant's competitive services should be priced at the effective rates set forth in Applicant's tariffs and the maximum rates for these services should be the maximum rates proposed by Applicant in its tariffs. The minimum rates for applicant's competitive services should be Applicant's long run incremental costs of providing those services as set forth in A.A.C. R14-2-1109;
 - (d) In the event that the applicant states only one rate in its tariff for a competitive service, the rate stated should be the effective (actual) price to be charged for the service as well as the service's maximum rate; and
 - (e) Applicant should be required to comply with the Commission's rules and modify its tariffs to conform with the rules if it is determined there is a conflict between Applicant's tariffs and the Commission's rules.
- 9. By Procedural Order dated March 22, 2000, the Commission set a deadline of May 17, 2000, for filing exceptions to the Staff Report; requesting that a hearing be set; or requesting intervention as interested parties.

10. On May 17, 2000, the Applicant filed affidavits indicating that it published notice of its filing in all counties where service is to be provided.

11. No exceptions were filed to the Staff Report, nor did any party request that a hearing be set.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Applicant is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Applicant and the subject matter of the application.
 - 3. Notice of the application was given in accordance with the law.
- 4. Applicant's provision of resold intrastate interexchange telecommunications services is in the public interest.
- 5. Applicant is a fit and proper entity to receive a Certificate for providing competitive intrastate interexchange telecommunications services as a reseller in Arizona.
- 6. Staff's recommendations in Findings of Fact No. 8 are reasonable and should be adopted.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of Legends Communications, Inc. for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for authority to provide competitive intraLATA and interLATA telecommunications services, except local exchange services, shall be and the same is hereby granted, except that Legends Communications, Inc., shall not be authorized to charge customers any prepayments, advances, or deposits. In the future if Legends Communications, Inc., desires to initiate such charges, including, but not limited to prepaid calling cards, it must file information with the Commission that demonstrates the Company's financial viability or establish an escrow account equal to the amount of any prepayments, advances, or deposits. Staff shall review the information provided and file its recommendation concerning financial viability within thirty days of receipt of the financial information, for Commission approval.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Legends Communications, Inc shall comply with the Staff

| 1 | recommendations set forth in Findings of Fact No. 8. | | | |
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| 2 | IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Legends Communications, Inc shall file modified tariffs | | | |
| 3 | within 30 days from the effective date of this Decision. | | | |
| 4 | IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. | | | |
| 5 | BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION. | | | |
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| 8 | CHAIRMAN | COMMISSIONER | COMMISSIONER | |
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| 10 | | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIA | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the | |
| 11 | | hereunto set my hand and caused | | |
| 12 | | Commission to be affixed at the Capithis day of, 2000. | tol, in the City of Phoenix, | |
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| 14 | | BRIAN C. MCNEIL | | |
| 15 | DISSENTAG:bbs | EXECUTIVE SECRETARY | | |
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| 1 | SERVICE LIST FOR: | LEGENDS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. | | |
|----|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| 2 | DOCKET NO. | T-03749A-99-0323 | | |
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| 4 | Connie Wightman, Consultant TECHNOLOGIES MANAGEMENT, INC. | | | |
| 5 | 210 N. Park Ave. Winter Park, FL 32789 | | | |
| 6 | Robert L. Franklin, Jr. | | | |
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| 8 | Atlanta, GA 30339 | | | |
| 9 | Lyn Farmer, Chief Counsel Legal Division | | | |
| 10 | ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSIC 1200 West Washington Street | DN | | |
| 11 | Phoenix, AZ 85007 | • | | |
| 12 | Deborah Scott, Director Utilities Division | | | |
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